

Middletown Public Library Board of Trustees

Minutes of Meeting – December 11, 2014

Middletown Public Library

700 West Main Road

Middletown, Rhode Island

Members Present: Steve Arendt, Chair; Ernest Gibbons; Lucie-Anne Dionne-Thomas; Susan Hester

Other(s) Present: Theresa Coish, Library Director

Member Absent: Ellrony Williams, Sally Gauch, Robert Crump

Other(s) Absent: Sue Connor, Candise Pruitt, Barbara VonVillas, Town Council liaison to the library

--Meeting called to order at 6:12 P.M. by Steve Arendt, Chair.

Enter executive session; return to open session at 8:06 pm.

Motion to seal minutes of Executive Session: Hester Second: Gibbons Unanimously carried.

Motion to abolish 2 part-time reference librarian L-9 level positions was made, seconded, and unanimously carried at the executive

session.

Disposition of Minutes:

--Minutes of November 18, 2014 meeting were reviewed. Motion to accept: Hester Second: Gibbons. Unanimously carried.

Correspondence received: MLK Center thanks for 151 lbs. of non-perishable food items for Feed a Friend.

Director's progress and financial reports on the library: Theresa Coish orally reviewed information provided in her Director's Report. Additional items include the following: Book Fair and wrapping station at Barnes and Noble went well today. Those in attendance at the most recent Ocean State Libraries meeting noted that they are seeing circulation of hard copy (print) books going down and electronic books (digital) increasing. Theresa learned that \$4,610 is being mailed to library from RI Foundation from a \$100,000 – 150,000 endowment and will come every year. This has been made possible through Stanley Grossman endowment/donation. The money was issued with no "reporting back" requirement as to how money was used. The money is for operational use; amounts not used may be rolled over. Steve will propose to the town that it be categorized as a Director's unrestricted line item.

Motion to accept Director's Report: Hester Second: Gibbons.

Unanimously carried.

Committee reports:

**--Budget Committee: Steve Arendt circulated and discussed the budget report. \$18, 770 will be changed to \$18, 792 for Cleaning and Disposal Services. Motion to accept Budget Report as discussed and recommended by the committee: Gibbons Second: Dionne- Thomas
Unanimously carried.**

--Contract Negotiations: No report. Executive Session held this date focused on preparing for upcoming contract negotiations.

--Director's Evaluation: No report.

--Friends Liaison: Agreement language for liability coverage is still with the town. The legal advisors at the trust are also providing input/advice for protection of the town. The Friends annual meeting will be held on the first Friday in March.

--Policy Review: No report.

Unfinished Business: Theresa met with Jennifer LaMond; garden design is appreciated by the family. Ms. LaMond indicated that having a website tribute to her father will be comforting to the family. Tree commission has agreed to plant 2 new trees in Mr. LaMond's honor.

New Business: None

Public presentation to or discussion with the Board: None.

Announcements:

--The next regularly scheduled Board meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 20, 2015 at 6:00 P.M., at the Library.

**--Motion to adjourn: Hester Second: Dionne-Thomas
Unanimously carried**

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/

Lucie-Anne Dionne-Thomas

Secretary